Construction of budget hotels

*130. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to construct budget hotels in public private partnership mode;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the hotels that would be built on the ECoR system; and

(c) how far the Railways would benefit financially from this collaboration?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) to (c) In order to meet the requirement of the passengers, this Ministry has decided to set up one hundered Budget Hotels all over the Indian Railways network. Out of these, 4 Budget Hotels are within the jurisdiction of East Coast Railways *viz.* Bhubaneshwar, Puri, Cuttack and Vishakhapattanam, The hotels will be set up on public private partnership by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) in the vicinity of the Railway Stations. By licensing unused railway land for Budget Hotels through IRCTC for a limited period, Railways may generate more revenue in the form of fixed land license fee and also by sharing a part of revenue generated from the project.

Diarrhoea deaths

*131. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 1.8 million children across the world die of diarrhoea annually, apart from fifty other diseases estimated to be caused by lack of proper sanitation, affecting over 80 per cent of the population;

(b) if so, what steps Government has taken, so far, to control diseases caused by water and sanitation defects;

(c) whether it is also a fact that about ten States in the country have not adopted the Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act; and

(d) if so, what concrete steps Government proposed to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) Yes, Sir, According to an article entitled "G-8 nations must lead efforts to combat global water and sanitation crisis; UN report", published in UN News service Newsletter dated 19.11.2007, each year 1.8 million children die from diarrhoea that could be prevented with access to clean water and a toilet.

(b) National Institute of Communicable Disease (NICD), Government of India has initiated an Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP) in November, 2004, to strengthen surveillance activities and to promote early detection of outbreak and to institute appropriate action for prevention and control of communicable diseases including Aute Diarrhoeal diseases (ADD) IDSP is being impiemented in phased manner to cover 32 States/UTs, with NICD as the nodal agency for capacity building and supervision of the programme.